



















*Printed by W. Phillips, 11, Strand, London, 1846.*

P. H. R. A.

INTERESTING VIEWS  
IN  
TURKEY,  
SELECTED FROM  
*THE ORIGINAL DRAWINGS,*  
TAKEN FOR  
SIR ROBERT AINSLIE,  
BY  
LUIGI MAYER, F.S.A.

---

WITH

DESCRIPTIONS HISTORICAL AND ILLUSTRATIVE.

---

London :

PRINTED FOR ROBERT BOWYER, 80, PALL-MALL;

BY BENSLEY AND SON, BOLT COURT, FLEET STREET.

---

1819.





## TURKEY IN EUROPE.

---

ONE of the finest portions of this quarter of the globe, including countries that will ever be revered by the classical reader, has long groaned under the despotism of a horde of Asiatic conquerors, by whom it was overrun in the fifteenth century. It was in vain that Constantine, transferring the seat of empire from Italy to Thrace, sought to raise Byzantium, to which he gave the name of Constantinople, to a higher pitch of splendour than Rome had enjoyed. Widely extending conquests, as they rendered the prospect of danger still more and more remote, enervated the posterity of the ancient Romans; and while the heart was enfeebled, little vigour could be expected in the extremities. As the empire declined, and at length was divided into two, this metropolis of the eastern division was far from answering the hopes of Constantine; nor has it attained more lustre under the sceptre of the Turks.

History knows nothing of this people out of Asia till the end of the thirteenth century. In the beginning of the fourteenth they passed the Dardanelles, and penetrated into Thrace, now part of Romania, planting the standard of Mohammed on the walls of Gallipoli. In this province they maintained their footing, and extended their sway through it and Macedonia, till in 1360 Adrianople became the chief seat of their government in Europe under Amurath. Bajazet, his son, enlarged his dominions by new conquests, driving out the petty princes of Thessaly, Macedonia, Phocis, Peloponnesus, Moesia, and Bulgaria; and laid siege to Constantinople, which he reduced to great extremity. At this

juncture news was brought to Bajazet, that Timour, more generally known by the name of Tamerlane, having overrun great part of Asia, had turned his arms against the Turks, and was preparing to break into Syria. On this Bajazet raised the siege, and made great preparations to meet the Tartar, by whom he was completely vanquished and made prisoner, at the celebrated battle of Ancyra, in 1402. This gave a considerable check to the Turkish power; but in 1412 the emperor Sigismund was defeated by the sultan Mousa with great slaughter.

Again was Constantinople besieged in 1424 by Amurath the second, and in imminent danger of being taken; but an impostor being incited to make pretensions to the Ottoman throne, the city was a second time freed from its peril in consequence of the Turkish forces being called into Asia.

This respite was of short duration, for Amurath soon vanquished his rival, and entered Macedonia at the head of a powerful army. With this he ravaged the country; and took and plundered Thessalonica, as he did most of the cities of Ætolia, Phocis, and Bœotia. From Greece he marched into Servia, and soon reduced that country. He thence turned his arms against Hungary, and laid siege to the strong city of Belgrade, but met with a vigorous and effectual resistance. In one sally no less than fifteen thousand Turks were slain by the Christians, which obliged the sultan to desist from his enterprise.

On his retreat he was pursued by the celebrated John Hunniades, who came up with him; attacked his army, cut great numbers of his men to pieces, and obliged the rest to flee with precipitation. In the plains of Transylvania they soon after experienced a still more signal defeat from the same general, leaving twenty thousand dead on the field of battle, and almost as many falling in the pursuit, while not more than three thousand of the Christians were killed.

The Turks received other severe checks from the Hungarians; as well as from the Albanians, who were headed by George Castriota, renowned in Turkish history under the name of Scanderbeg.

At length in the beginning of April, 1453, Mohammed II. laid

siege to Constantinople, the walls of which then included almost the whole of the western empire. Torn to pieces by intestine dissensions, the consequence of religious factions, it made a more vigorous defence than might have been expected. The force that the minister was able to enrol at the command of Constantine Paleologus was inconsiderable. It did not amount to quite five thousand volunteers; and, including the Italian auxiliaries, eight thousand were the utmost of the troops the emperor could muster. For fifty-three days it withstood the enemy. Breaches were repeatedly made; and as often a new wall arose to repel the assailants. Mohammed, tired by the resistance he experienced, offered Constantine advantageous terms of capitulation: but these the Greek emperor refused, determined to defend this last remnant of his empire, or perish with it. A report having spread in the Turkish camp, that Hunniades was advancing with a large army to the relief of the city, the soldiers of Mohammed were seized with a panic, began to mutiny, and in a tumultuous manner pressed the sultan to raise the siege.

This he would have been in consequence compelled to do, had he not embraced the advice of Zogan, one of his officers, who suggested to him, to order an assault without delay, at the same time promising to give up the city to be plundered by the soldiery. At three in the morning of Tuesday the 29th of May, the assault began. Such troops as the sultan valued least were first employed, with a design to tire the Christians, who made great havoc among this disorderly multitude. After the carnage had lasted some hours, the janizaries advanced in good order with other fresh troops, and renewed the attack with great vigour. Twice the Christians repulsed the enemy; but being at length exhausted by the continual fatigue, they were unable to stand their ground, and the Turks broke into the city in several places. Justiniani, who had the command of the Genoese troops and a select body of Greeks, having received a wound in the thigh and another in the hand, caused himself to be conveyed to Galata, where he soon after died. His retreat so disheartened his men, that they presently quitted their posts, and fled in confusion. Constantine, however,

attended by a few of the most resolute of his followers, still kept his stand, undauntedly striving to oppose the multitude of barbarians that now poured in from every quarter ; till all his friends lying dead around him, he fell the last in the breach. For three days pillage and massacre roamed uncontrolled over this unhappy city ; when Mohammed enjoined his army, under pain of death, to forbear from all farther hostilities. The next day he made his public entry in triumph into Constantinople, and chose it for the seat of the Turkish empire, which it still continues.

Servia now engaged the attention of the conqueror, and in 1454 he entered that country at the head of his army, and imposed on it a tribute of forty thousand ducats. On his return he peopled the towns and villages about Constantinople with four thousand men and women, who had fallen to his share, and laid the foundations of the extensive palace, now known by the name of the seraglio. The following year he sent a fleet against the islands of Rhodes and Chios, where it was repulsed ; but Cos and some other places were reduced. He then turned his arms against Hungary, and laid siege to the city of Belgrade. At first he met with some success, beat down part of the wall, and stopped the navigation of the Danube with sixty ships. The arrival of Hunniades, however, quickly turned the scales : in a vigorous sally he entirely routed the Turkish army, Mohammed himself fled wounded in the thigh, and all his ships were burned.

Mohammed, thus repulsed from Belgrade, made preparations for the entire conquest of the Morea, the ancient Peloponnesus. The taking of Constantinople had struck such terror into the Grecian princes, brothers of Constantine, that they prepared to retire to Italy. On this the Albanians seized the country, and chose Manuel Cantacuzenus, a Greek, for their prince ; offering to the sultan the cities and fortresses, if he would allow them to keep possession of the open fields for their flocks, as their way of life was that of shepherds. This proposal was not approved by Mohammed. Accordingly he attacked the Albanians, defeated them, drove them out of the Morea, and left it in the hands of the Grecian princes, whom he rendered tributary.



As soon as Mohammed had withdrawn his forces, the Greeks revolted : but, on the return of the sultan with a powerful army, Thomas Paleologus fled to Italy with his family, while Demetrius submitted, and was carried to Constantinople with most of the leading men in the principal cities, where Turkish governors were appointed. The Greeks still made some faint struggles in various places, but with little effect ; the whole country being subdued in 1549, except some maritime places held by the Venetians.

Against Scanderbeg, Mohammed was less successful ; but, after having had several of his armies defeated by this able general, he concluded a peace with him in 1461.

This peace enabled him not only to complete his conquest of most of the Grecian islands, but to subdue Walachia, Bosnia, and Illyria, and extend his sway nearly to the confines of Italy. The Venetians, aware that the ambition of the Turks would not be satisfied while their empire had any limits, entered into an alliance with the Hungarians, to prevent the West of Europe from being overrun by them ; and to this alliance Scanderbeg was soon induced to accede. The Hungarians made an incursion into the Turkish dominions on the West, while the Venetians invaded the Morea, where they made some conquests, but were soon obliged to abandon them. They recovered the isle of Lemnos indeed ; but, being defeated in two engagements by land, found themselves under the necessity of soliciting assistance from France, Spain, and Germany. Having obtained considerable supplies from these powers, they again entered the Morea, but with worse success than before. On this they applied to Matthias, king of Hungary, to attempt a diversion in their favour. Accordingly he made a fresh incursion upon the Turks, ravaged Servia, and carried off a vast number of prisoners, with a great booty.

Meantime several Turkish armies sent against Scanderbeg had been defeated and dispersed, till the death of this hero, in 1466, freed the sultan from the most formidable enemy he had ever encountered. This event was followed by the reduction of Epirus and Albania under the Turkish sceptre : and the Venetians at

length found themselves under the necessity of concluding a peace with the Turks in 1479.

This peace was of short duration, the war being renewed in 1481, when the Turks invaded Italy, and took the city of Otranto, an event that diffused great terror throughout Europe. This terminated the exploits of Mohammed II., who died the same year of the gout, and was succeeded by his son, Bajazet II. The year 1517 brought a considerable accession to the Ottoman dominions in the conquest of Egypt by Selim I., who had dethroned and put to death his father, and slain his elder brother. But Europe experienced little disturbance of its tranquillity from the Turks, till Solymán I. set out with a great army to conquer Hungary. The city of Belgrade was immediately invested by him, and soon taken; but the obstinate resistance of Rhodes, and a rebellion in Egypt, called off his attention from Hungary till 1525.

The following year was rendered memorable by the battle of Mohatz, where Lewis, having rashly engaged a Turkish army of two hundred thousand men with only twenty-five thousand, lost his life, and all his forces were cut to pieces, except a few of the cavalry. This defeat was followed by the surrender of Buda, which was retaken by the Hungarians in 1528: but the following year it was taken again by the Turks; and both Upper and Lower Moldavia submitted to their sway. They then invested Vienna, but were obliged to abandon the siege, and soon after expelled from the German dominions.

In 1540 the war was renewed in Hungary, and the greater part of that kingdom mastered by the Turks; Ferdinand, emperor of Germany, taking possession of the rest. From the great defeat of the Turks at the battle of Lepanto, one of the most memorable sea-fights recorded in history, we may date the decline of the Ottoman power in the west: for though they continued to make incursions on the side of Hungary with various success, they were unable to extend their dominions, and found it difficult to withstand the western powers.

The emperor Rodolphus having entered into a confederacy with

the princes of Transylvania, Wallachia, and Moldavia, the Turks and their Tatar auxiliaries were defeated in several engagements, and entirely driven out of these provinces.

Early in the seventeenth century the Turks first engaged in a war with Poland, but it was terminated by a peace in the year in which it began. In the year 1672 hostilities recommenced; and in the following year the Germans and Russians joined the Poles, whose army was headed by the celebrated John Sobieski. Mohammed was entirely defeated by Sobieski, who was soon after proclaimed king of Poland; but the nobles, jealous of his glory, refusing to support him properly in pursuing his advantages, he was obliged to conclude a treaty four years after. By this the Poles resigned their pretensions to Kaminieck, which the Turks had taken in the first year of the war, and to the sovereignty over the Cossacks of Podolia.

With Russia the Turks continued to war unsuccessfully, and the peace with Poland was of no long duration. In 1683 the Turks had laid siege to Vienna, but were forced to raise it by Sobieski. The Venetians soon after declared war against them, and their affairs seemed to be going to wreck, till they were revived in 1688 by the vizir Ahmed Kyoprili, an experienced general, and a man of the most upright and blameless character. In 1691 Ahmed fell in a battle against the Germans at Islankamen, when the Turks were defeated; and no one could be found to retrieve their affairs, which continued declining down to the battle of Zenta, in 1697, when they received a signal overthrow from prince Eugene.

By the peace of 1699 the Turks relinquished Transylvania to the Austrians, the Morea to the Venetians, and Azof to the Russians. The war that was terminated by the treaty of Utrecht having left the powers of Europe in an exhausted state, the Turks considered the opportunity favourable for recovering the Morea from the Venetians, and they have held it ever since it was confirmed to them by the treaty of Passarowitz. In 1736 they waged a successful war against the Russians and Austrians; and by the peace of 1789 resumed Belgrade and Orsova, with some parts of

Servia, and Wallachia, formerly ceded to Austria, and Azof, which the Russians were constrained to abandon.

In 1769 a war commenced with Russia, which almost threatened destruction to the Ottoman empire; and in 1774 the Turks were glad to obtain peace on the terms of the Russian general.

In 1787 the war was renewed, and the emperor Joseph thought proper to engage in it as the assistant of his Russian ally. The success of the war was various between the Turks and Austrians, the Russians taking but little part in it at the commencement: and soon after the death of Joseph, a separate peace was made with Leopold. Catharine continued the war alone from the summer of 1790, till the close of 1791, during which time the Turks suffered several defeats; but the peace then concluded gave her only Oczakow, with the district extending from the Bogh to the Niester.

Nothing, perhaps, contributes more to weaken the power of the Turks in Europe, than the radical defects inherent in its government, assisted by the interference of Russia in the provinces nominally under its dominion, which is openly sanctioned by late treaties. It has been the modern policy of Russia to cherish insubordination, or foment rebellion, in these provinces, availing itself particularly of its situation as chief of the Greek church: and in the year 1802, when prince Ipsilanti was made governor of Wallachia, and prince Murusi governor of Moldavia, it was expressly stipulated between the Russian minister and the Porte, that neither of them should be removed from his office, unless proved guilty of an offence, which that minister should allow to be of a nature to justify his deposition. A situation like this cannot be permanent.

At present, Turkey in Europe comprises the provinces of Moldavia, Bessarabia, Wallachia, Bulgaria, Servia, Bosnia, part of Croatia and Dalmatia, Herzegovina, Albania, Romania, and the Morea. Its extent from Choczim, on the northern frontier of Moldavia, in lat  $48^{\circ} 52'$  N., to Cape Matapan, the southern extremity of the Morea, in lat.  $36^{\circ} 35'$ , is about 870 miles: and from the western confine of Turkish Croatia, in long.  $16^{\circ} 20'$  E. from Greenwich, to the Straits of Constantinople in  $29^{\circ} 10'$ , about 680

miles. The river Dniester forms the north-eastern boundary of this country, separating it from Russia. The southern part of the grand Carpathian chain of mountains, the Bastarnic Alps of the ancients, bounds Wallachia on the north-west, and part of Moldavia on the west. This, with the Save, and a small portion of the Danube, constitutes the principal part of the frontier on the side of Austria. But the most extensive boundary of the country is its maritime coast; the Black Sea, Sea of Marmora, Archipelago, Mediterranean, and Gulf of Venice, washing its irregularly indented shores from the mouth of the Dniester to Dalmatia, the two extremities of its northern limits.

Moldavia and Wallachia are a part of the ancient Dacia; and Yassy, the capital of Moldavia, was the Jassiorum Municipium of the Romans. Bessarabia, or Budzac, was a country of the Gæte and Peucini. Bulgaria includes the principal part of the two provinces of Mæsia. The ancient Pannonia is now divided into Servia, Bosnia, and Turkish Croatia; though the latter appears to include also a small portion of Noricum. Dalmatia, which retains its old name; Albania, formerly Epirus; and Herzegovina; were included in the ancient Illyricum: except that Albania extends on the south beyond Illyricum into Macedonia. Romania, or Rumelia, by far the most extensive division, spreads over ancient Thrace, Pæonia, Macedonia, and the northern part of Greece. And the peninsula of the Morea is the ancient Peloponnesus.

The population of this country has been computed at eight millions, which, supposing it to contain 182,560 square miles, would give forty-three persons to a square mile; but as there are many mountainous and barren tracts, and the population of the best is apparently thin, this is probably beyond the truth.

These regions enjoy an excellent climate, salubrious air, and regular seasons; though in the province of Moldavia the winter is long and severe. The general appearance of the country is mountainous; but the hills are interspersed with pleasant plains, and delightful valleys.

On the north-west of Constantinople lies a plain country of great



extent, and on the shores of the Black Sea are many level deserts. The soil however is for the most part fertile, the northern parts producing wheat and rich pasture, the middle and southern abundance of rice. Beside the grand stream of the Danube, many large and beautiful rivers intersect these provinces, and the numerous gulfs of the Archipelago and Mediterranean diversify and enrich the country. Next to the Danube perhaps, though far inferior, is the Maritz, or ancient Hebrus, which, rising in the ancient Hæmus, runs toward the E. and S., till, after a course of 250 miles, it falls into the Archipelago. The Vardari, the ancient Axios, rising in mount Scardus, a western branch of the same chain, pursues a S. E. course for above 200 miles, and then falls into the gulf of Salonica.

Wallachia and Bessarabia contain some lakes of considerable extent; as those around Ismail, and that to the east of Surza, which communicates with the Danube, if it do not form a part of it. Nor are Albania and the southern provinces destitute of collections of inland waters, though they are of less importance.

The southern slopes of the hills in Moldavia and Wallachia are frequently appropriated to the vine, the produce of which, though not managed with much care, forms an article of exportation to Russia. It is a light wine, and to increase its strength, it is common to expose the casks containing it to the open air, when the cold weather sets in. Thus, in a few nights, the wine is encircled with a thick crust of ice, through which a hole is bored with a red-hot iron, and the liquor is drawn off clear and strong. The wheat is excellent, and commonly harvested in June. Indian corn is much cultivated. The woods abound with useful timber; and there are many plantations of mulberry-trees for the purpose of feeding silk-worms.

Among the fruit-trees the apple is the most common; and there is one variety that appears natural to the climate. It bears, without culture, a fruit called *domniasca*, which is perhaps the finest in Europe, both for size, odour, and flavour. It has been supposed, that the crab is the original stock whence all the varieties that spread our tables, and gratify our palates, have sprung; and that

these have attained their increase of size, and excellence of flavour, solely from the art of horticulture : but is it not more probable that the *domniasca* is entitled to a share in their genealogy, if it be not the parent of them all ? The pear, the plum, the cherry, the service, the walnut, come to great perfection with little culture ; but the climate is unfavourable to the growth of the olive and the fig.

The effect of subjugation to a foreign power and despotic government is very conspicuous in the people of this country. The Dacians were a brave and warlike race ; but these, their descendants, submit to the grossest ill-treatment without resistance, taking blows from any stranger as patiently as an awkward recruit from the cane of his corporal. A trifling present, however, will obtain from them the most cheerful and ready services. Their appearance, in their summer dress, is precisely that of the ancient Dacians, as represented on Trajan's column. A savage figure, habited in a shirt of coarse linen girt round the waist, and a pair of long drawers ; a hatchet hanging at the girdle ; a sheep-skin thrown over the left shoulder, and fastened on the breast ; and sandals of undressed leather on the feet. The peasants are called *rumuns*, or Romans, now a term of reproach, by which they are distinguished from the boyars, or nobles. Their language is a corruption of the Latin, somewhat resembling the Italian, but more debased by barbarian mixture. The boyars of the most ancient families assert, that they are the descendants of the Slavi, and a distinct race from the people, who have sprung from the alliances of the Romans with the original Dacians.

---



## P E R A.

PERA is one of the suburbs of Constantinople, or more properly a quarter of the great suburb of Galata, on the north side of the harbour, and opposite Scudar. It stretches for more than two miles along the summit of a lofty hill, commanding diversified and beautiful views of the grand seraglio, and principal buildings of the city, with the vessels in the harbour, and a great part of the coast of Asia; and is considered as the most salubrious spot about Constantinople. It is inhabited by Greeks, Armenians, and Jews, with a considerable number of Roman Catholics, who have at their head a Romish ecclesiastic with the title of archbishop. The ambassadors of England, Sweden, and Holland, have domestic chapels for protestants; and a general toleration is either allowed, or winked at. Almost all the envoys and ambassadors from different countries have their winter residence in this suburb. The envoy from Russia is supported by his court in extraordinary splendour. The streets are badly paved, and the houses are irregularly built. The women never appear abroad unless disguised by the *mahramah*, which consists of two pieces of white muslin, one tied under the chin, enveloping the head, and the other across the mouth and part of the nose. Yellow boots are drawn over the feet, and a loose kind of riding-coat, called *seredje*, with a large square cape hanging low behind, is universally worn by the Turkish women, who thus equipped may walk in the public streets without scandal. The last-mentioned garment is generally of green cloth, a colour no Christian is permitted to wear. The female figures in the print annexed may convey some idea of this dress. The view represents a small mosque and fountain at the entrance of the town, and is taken from the north part, called the Burying Ground. The figures on horseback are Tatar couriers, or messengers of government, who are under the immediate orders of the Bashaw and his ministers; their dress consists of a yellow cap, the lower part covered with black lambskin; a cloth coat, wrapping round the body, with short wide sleeves; blue trowsers, made very wide, and buttoned tight round the small part of the leg; and strong red boots, which are drawn over the trowsers as high as the calf of the leg. The stirrups are plates of iron nearly as long as the foot. A large Turkish sabre is also hung at the belt. The figure in the left hand corner of the view represents a water-carrier, with his leathern bag slung over his back, carrying water through the streets for sale.

The inscriptions which are affixed over the entrance of the mosques are in general sentences from the Koran.

## AQUEDUCT NEAR BELGRADE,

### IN ROMANIA.

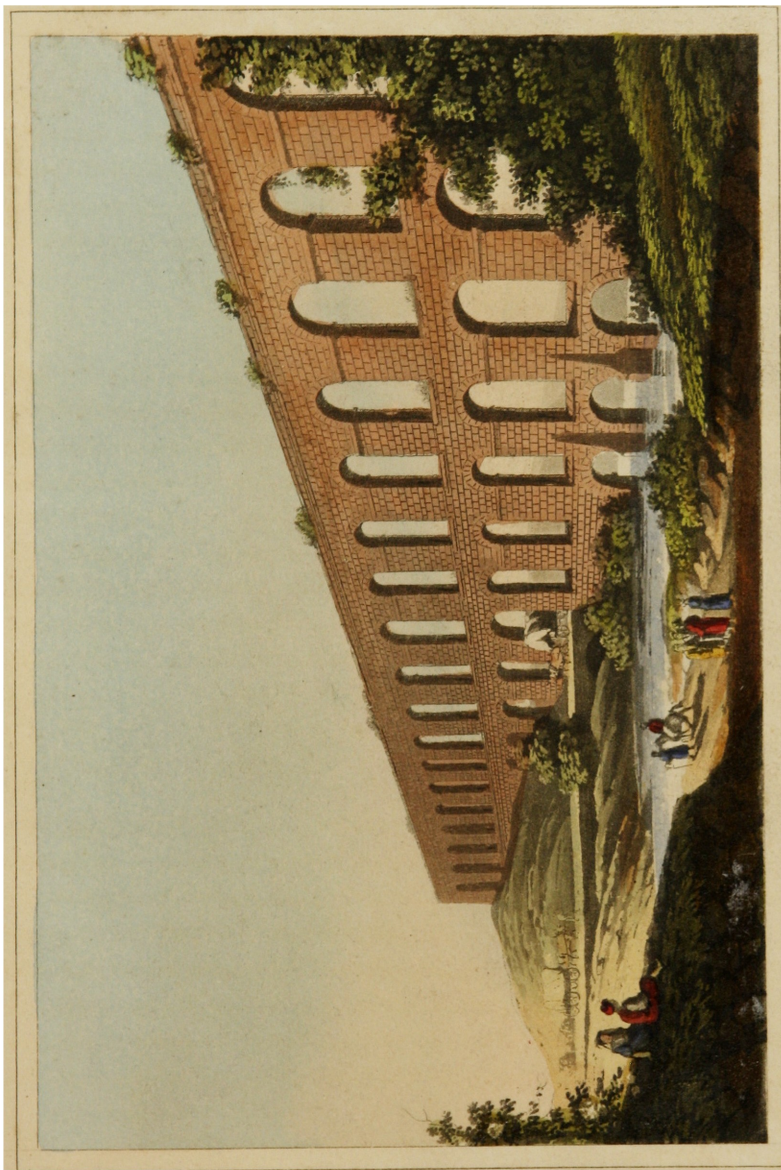
THE village of Belgrade is about twelve miles to the north of Constantinople, and at a short distance from the Black Sea, which in a clear day is within view. It derives its name from the pleasantness of its situation, and is much frequented by the foreign ambassadors, as well as by the principal Turks and other persons of fashion, for the cool and refreshing shades it affords during the scorching heats of summer.

At this village Lady Montague often resided. In one of her letters, dated thence, she says, "The heats of Constantinople have driven me to this place, which perfectly answers the description of the Elysian Fields. I am in the middle of a wood consisting chiefly of fruit-trees, watered by a vast number of fountains famed for the excellency of their water, and within sight of the Black Sea, from which I perpetually enjoy the refreshment of cool breezes, that make me insensible of the heats of summer." In this neighbourhood several capacious cisterns, or reservoirs, are formed for the purpose of collecting the water, of which there is an abundant supply from the different springs. "From these cisterns," says Wheler, "the water is conveyed by channels under ground to the several aqueducts that carry it by many windings and turnings over the low vallies, from the tops of hills to hills, until at last it is brought with a vast charge to Constantinople, where it is again collected in large basins, and finally dispersed in earthen pipes to the different quarters of the city."

The annexed View is taken near Belgrade, and represents one of the principal aqueducts alluded to. It consists of two extensive rows of arches, the uppermost containing above forty, and the under one about twenty. In the deepest part of the valley a third row of arches is formed. Its height at this part is near 100 feet. This edifice, as well as several others of a similar kind, which are seen between this place and the metropolis, are supposed to have been erected by the latter Roman and Greek emperors; but, being much injured from time and neglect, were completely restored by Solyman the Great.

The care of them at present, and the cleansing of the different channels through which the water passes, is imposed on the inhabitants of the adjacent villages, for which service they are exempted from all other taxes.





AQUEDUCT NEAR BELGRADE.







*Published by M. Parthenay, 22, rue de la Harpe, Paris.*

**VIEW ON THE ALUTA.**





## VIEW ON THE ALUTA, IN WALACHIA.

THE province of Walachia is of considerable extent, but contains few towns of note, and is in general but poorly cultivated. The Turks call it Carabogdana, which signifies the land of black wheat, from its producing a great quantity of this kind of grain. The western parts are extremely mountainous, and afford the most romantic and grand scenery. In the rivers gold-dust is found in considerable quantities; and it is supposed the mines of the mountains would yield abundantly, if they were properly worked.

The view exhibited is taken on the Aluta. This river rises near Czyek, an inconsiderable town in the northern part of Transylvania; and after winding among the mountains of Walachia, and passing a town of its own name, falls into the Danube, between Widdin and Nicopolis.

By the treaty of Passarowitz, in the year 1718, the Aluta was made one of the boundaries of the Turkish and Imperial territories, from its entrance into Walachia to its discharge into the Danube. By subsequent treaties some little variations have taken place respecting the limits of the two empires.

The group of figures on the foreground of the drawing consists of gipsies offering gold-dust for sale to travellers. One of the principal occupations of this singular people, of whom there are vast hordes throughout the Turkish dominions,\* is to collect the gold-sand from the rivers in this province; from which employment they are called gold-washers. The apparatus necessary for this work consists of a crooked board, provided with a wooden rim on each side; over this they spread woollen cloths, and shaking the gold-sand mixed with water upon it, the small grains remain sticking to the cloth, from which they easily separate them. The tents on the opposite side of the river are the dwellings of these people, while thus employed; the cottage near is the residence of a commissary, appointed to superintend them; one half of the gold found being collected as the dowry of the princess of Walachia: the remaining half is the property of the finder.

\* The Zingani are very numerous in Syria, where they pass for Mohammedans. They live in tents, and sometimes in grottoes under ground. These people bear a much better character than their relations in Hungary, or the gipsies in England, who are thought by some to have been originally of the same tribe.—Pocock.

## CIALA-KAVAK,

### IN BULGARIA.

THE village of Ciala-Kavak is situate at a little distance to the north of Dobral, on the great road leading from Constantinople to Hermannstadt. The houses are solidly constructed of very thick planks, roofed with heavy tiles, and contradict strongly, by their appearance, the accounts given by the generality of travellers of the extreme wretchedness of the Bulgarian dwellings. Chishull says "The inhabitants of this province seem excessively poor, and are defended from the injuries of the weather by houses very meanly built:" yet this author's representation is by far the most favourable. "From Dobral," he observes, "we begin to ascend the foot of the Hæmus, where the way winds so artificially as to take away the difficulty of ascent. Here crossing a rapid river, which forms its channel in the body of the mountain, and through a variety of pleasant shades and clifts, we arrive at length at an open plain on the top of the hill, and therein at a true country Paradise of Bulgar-Christians, called Challiccavak. On the top of the hill we proceed for some time in a level road through a stately grove of oaks, after which the way begins to descend."

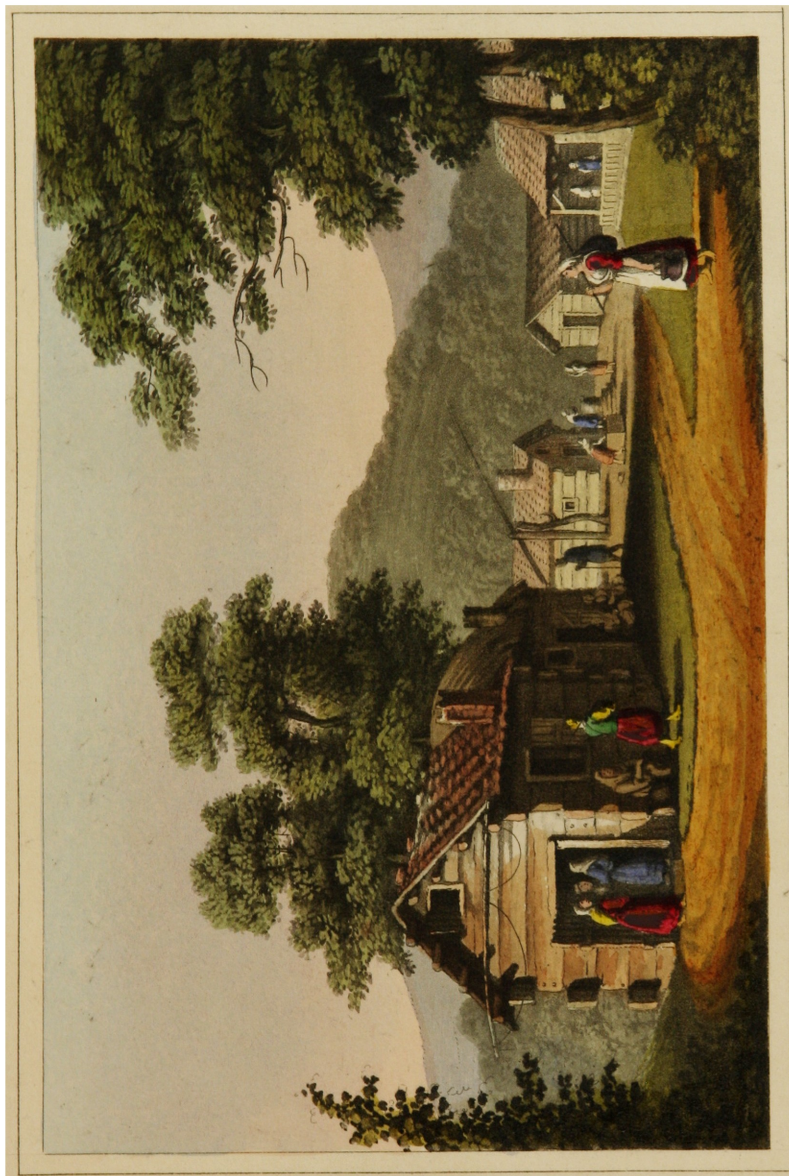
The accounts of this province by Boscovich, as well as by a more modern traveller,\* are unfavourable in the extreme. The houses, according to the former, are built of mud and wood, without windows, and so low as not to permit any one to stand upright, excepting between the beams of the roof, which are quite black with smoke. The latter says, "The accommodations for travellers in Bulgaria are beyond description deplorable. Although our *firman* secured to us the best lodging each place furnished, we never could expect any thing half so comfortable as an English barn. Whenever we had the good fortune to meet with a fire-place, it was sure to be in the middle of the room, with a hole in the roof to let out the smoke. We found the people of the country inhospitable savages, never yielding us any assistance, but when it was compulsory." This author, however, observes, "They are so accustomed to be plundered, that they are dreadfully afraid of strangers, and carefully conceal from them even the necessaries of life."

\* Mr. Hunter.









*Printed by M. W. & Co. 27, Colton St., London W.C. 2.*

**CIALA KAVAK.**







PORT OF LATACHIA.







## PORT OF LATACHIA,

### IN SYRIA.

THE port of Latachia, like most of the others on the coast of Syria, is a kind of basin, environed by a mole, the entrance to which is very narrow. It might formerly have contained from twenty to thirty vessels; but the Turks have suffered it to be so choked up, that it will scarcely at present admit a fifth part of that number. Ships of four hundred tons burden cannot ride here; and seldom a year passes that one or more vessels are not stranded in the entrance. Notwithstanding this inconvenience, Latachia carries on a considerable commerce, consisting chiefly of tobacco, of which upwards of twenty cargoes are annually sent to Damietta: the returns from which place consist of rice, which is bartered in Upper Syria for oils and cottons. The town cannot be considered as a place of any strength; and might, according to the representation of a modern writer, be taken by a single privateer, not being provided with either cannon or soldiers. It stands on the ruins of the ancient city, and is built partly with its remains. The same may be asserted of Tripoli, Antioch, Verut, and most of the towns on this coast, occasioned, in all probability, by earthquakes that have destroyed them at different periods.\*

The annexed drawing is taken from the rocks between the custom-house and the fort, and represents the latter building, with the harbour and surrounding country.

\* Since this view was taken, Latachia has again experienced this dreadful calamity, by which great part of the town is said to have been destroyed.

## ROAD OVER THE BALKAN MOUNTAIN.

THE annexed engraving represents the passage of the Turkish ambassador and his retinue over the Balkan Mountain, on his return from Petersburg to Constantinople, in the month of July 1794. At the same period Sir Robert Ainslie was also returning from his embassy at the Porte with his suite, and an escort of two thousand Turkish guards; and meeting unexpectedly in the narrow and dangerous passes of the mountain, they were mutually obstructed from passing until proper arrangements were made for their security. Fortunately a recess was discovered at a little distance on the side of the road, into which the British minister and his attendants withdrew, while the Turkish cavalcade passed on, by which means the passage was effected without the least accident to either party. The extreme wretchedness of the roads across this stupendous chain of mountains, and the danger of passing them, is noticed in the description of a Plate in Part I.; it may therefore appear extraordinary, that such numerous trains of guards, horses, and carriages of different kinds should accompany the ambassadors on these occasions; but it must be recollected, that, the mountains being infested with banditti, an escort is requisite for the security of their persons; and that they are necessitated, from the want of accommodations in these parts, to carry with them not only provision, but bedding, furniture, &c., and sometimes even water, for the conveyance of which numerous vehicles and attendants are indispensable. Boscovich, who accompanied the English ambassador through these provinces in the year 1762, says, "We carried with us in waggons the most necessary things for our journey: kitchen utensils, beds, tents, tables, chairs, &c., because there was nothing to be found in the places where we lodged but four walls; or, if by chance some wretched furniture was met with, such as carpets or sofas, we had them always removed, being fearful from their very dirty condition of their communicating the plague. In a journey of this kind therefore every thing useful ought to be carried."





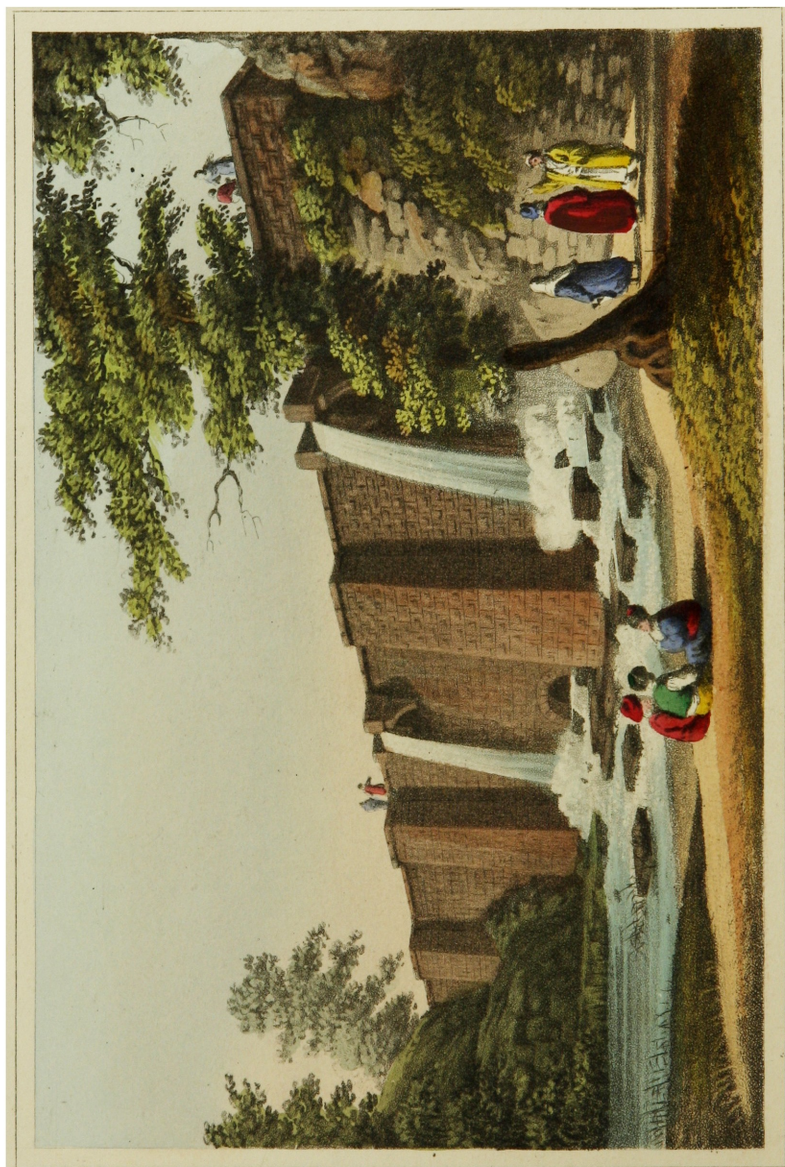


*Published for M. Parker & Co. by J. B. Lippincott & Co.*

ROAD OVER THE BAIKAN MOUNTAIN.







*Pub. by H. Parker 21, Waterloo St. London. 1856.*

**PICCOLO BENT.**







# PICCOLO BENT,

## IN ROMANIA.

THE Piccolo Bent, or Bendt, so called to distinguish it from the Chuckook, or greater Bent, in the same neighbourhood, is a capacious sheet of water, collected principally from the springs in the vicinity of the village of Belgrade, from which it is about a mile distant.

The reservoir is formed in a dingle, surrounded by umbrageous groves of chestnut and plane trees, many of them of a prodigious size. The water issues from two troughs of stone, and, falling over a high and massive wall, forms two beautiful cascades, which, after breaking over several stone steps, are conveyed by different aqueducts to Constantinople to supply part of the inhabitants of that city.

The wall or dam is solidly built in a kind of rustic work, and was, in all probability, erected by some of the latter Roman emperors. Several aqueducts in the environs of this place appear also from their style of building to have been raised about the same period: these edifices, being much decayed, were restored by Solyman the Second, surnamed the Magnificent, who, from his having constructed and repaired so many works of public utility, is called by la Motraye the Sextus Quintus of Constantinople.

The romantic scenery of this spot has rendered it justly celebrated, as well by travellers who have visited the Turkish metropolis, as by the Turks themselves; by whom it is much frequented in the summer season, on account of its groves and refreshing coolness; nothing to the ears of a Mohammedan being more grateful than the sound of falling water, even when on a diminutive scale.

Here Achmet the Third, attracted by the beauties of the place, erected a chiosk, or summer-house, about seventy years ago; which, beside its profuse carving and gilding, contained several poetical descriptions of the adjacent country in embossed letters of gold round the apartments. To this delicious retreat its royal founder frequently retired with his favourite ladies. This chiosk is now falling to pieces from neglect, one emperor never repairing the works of another.

## ISLAND OF TORTOSA,

### IN SYRIA.

THIS island is situate about a league and a half distant from the town of Tortosa, on the continent. It is known to the Turks by the name of Aurat, and is supposed by Van Egmont to be the ancient Arvedi, Arpad, or Arvad, mentioned in Genesis, chap. x, and other parts of Scripture. It was called by the Greeks and Romans Aradus, under which appellation it is frequently mentioned by Strabo, Arrian, Quintus Curtius, and other ancient authors. The island is about a mile in circumference, and almost entirely surrounded with an immense wall, said to be the work of the Phœnicians, the stones of which are of prodigious bulk, some of them measuring thirty feet in length, and from ten to twelve in thickness. Within this enclosure, which forms a kind of mole, the Turkish vessels are effectually sheltered from the violence of the wind: they enter by an aperture or space, whether the effect of accident, or purposely so left, is not known. The island exhibits the ruins of some dwellings, and a castle of considerable extent, in which Godfrey of Bouillon held a council of the principal Christians for the deliverance of Jerusalem from the infidels. Several cannons taken from the Christians at different times are still mounted on the walls, marked with the Venetian arms, as well as with those of France. Here a garrison of fifty or sixty Turks is kept to prevent the seizure of their vessels by the corsairs, who frequently infested this part, and committed many depredations. The castle was built, as it is asserted, with materials from the ruined town of Tortosa, to which it is nearly opposite, and is sometimes used by the Turks as a place of confinement. The island is nearly an entire rock, but affords an abundant supply of excellent water, with some fig, olive, and other fruit-trees.

This place formed part of the conquests of the Macedonian hero, who, with the surrender of it, received a crown of gold from Strato, son of Geros-tratus, then king of Aradus and the neighbouring territory.







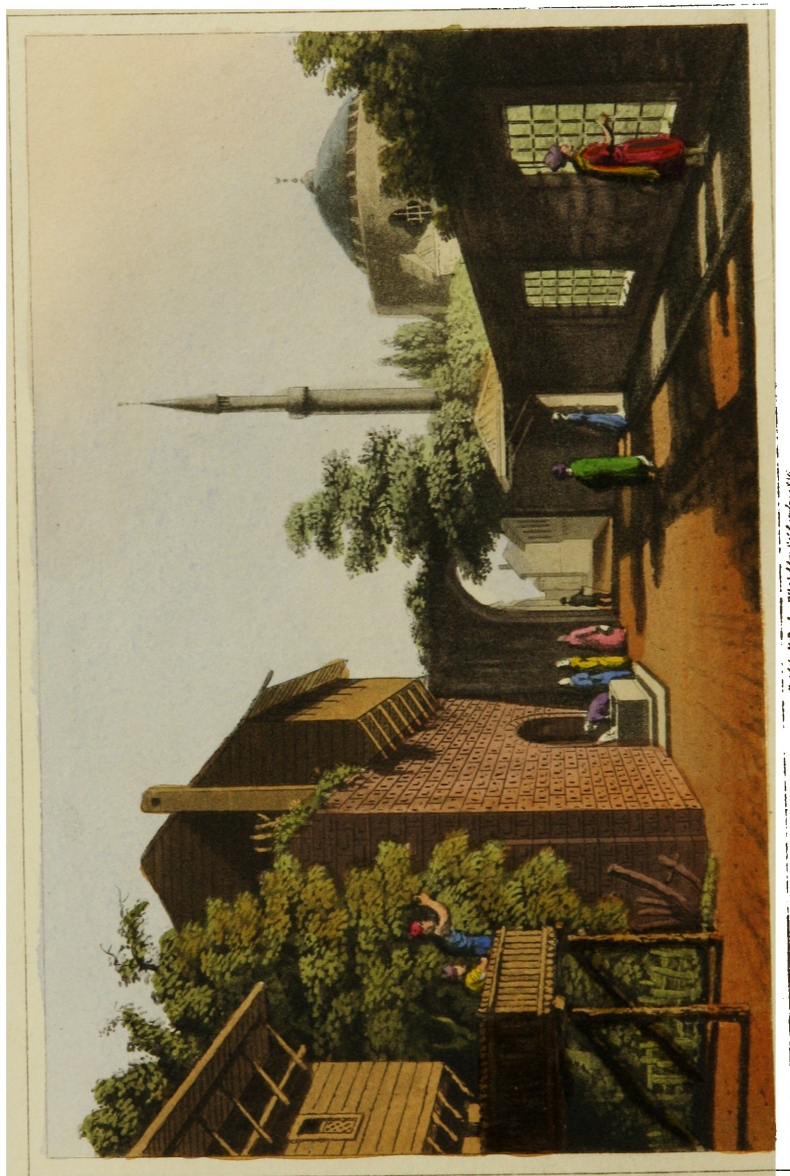
*Pub. by W. Parker 25 Golden Sq. London, 1846.*

# ISLAND OF TORTOSA .









*Peint. de M. Perrot. D'après une gravure de 1840.*

**ESKI E. STAMBOUL.**





## ESKI-ESTAMBOUL,

### IN ROMANIA.

ABOUT the middle of the fourteenth century the Turks passed the Euxine and invaded Europe. Romania and Bulgaria, the ancient Thrace, and Mœsia, were the provinces they first occupied. Amurath the First, the son of Orchan, and grandson of Othman, the founder of their nation, was the chief under whom they distinguished themselves by conquests, between the year 1360 and 1389, by which they were established on the western shores of the Black Sea. Eski-Estamboul, the town of which the annexed view is given, is said to have been one of the places they possessed in their first invasion of the European territory; at which period the mosque and minaret, represented in the drawing, as well as the fountain opposite, are supposed to have been erected. Stamboul, or, as it is inscribed upon the Turkish coins, Islam-boul, signifies "The abode of the Faithful," or of true Mahomedans. Eski-Estamboul, or, as it may be translated, Old Constantinople, is situate between the towns of Borgas and Kirkclisia, about fifteen leagues from the northern boundary of the province of Romania, near a small river, over which there is a stone bridge of three arches. Between this place and Kirkclisia are the ruins of some ancient fortifications, but when or by whom constructed is not known.

It may be necessary to observe, that as the foregoing description of Eski-Estamboul does not correspond with the accounts hitherto published, as well in situation as in other particulars, it is not improbable but that there may be another town of the same appellation not very distant. Chishull, who was at Eski-Estamboul in the year 1201, places it at the foot of Mount Hæmus, in Bulgaria, on a small river, called by the Turks Batkan. He describes it as the remains of an ancient town, and imagines it may be the Oescus Triballorum, conquered by Philip of Macedon. It contained an image of the Virgin Mary, rudely executed, and several crosses; whereas the place in question has not the least vestige of Christianity.

In the best maps extant, this town is also placed to the north of Mount Hæmus, at no great distance from Ternarwa, the ancient capital of Bulgaria, on a river that falls into the Black Sea at Varna.

## MOUNT BALKAN.

MOUNT Balkan, called by the Turks Emeneh Dag, but generally known by the name of Mount Hæmus,\* is part of a vast chain of mountains of which Argentaro and the celebrated Rhodope are branches. Its eastern extremity forms a promontory near the gulf of Forus, on the western shores of the Black Sea, called by the Turks Emeneh borun, a translation of its ancient name, Hæmi extrema.† The provinces of Bulgaria and Romania are separated by this range of mountains, which extend in an irregular direction, and in immense masses, through Servia and Dalmatia to the Julian Alps, of which they form a continuation.

The view is taken in that part of the mountain usually crossed at Dobral, by travellers passing from Constantinople to the northern parts of Europe. It is here about twenty miles in width, and presents the most romantic and diversified prospects of rock, wood, and water, interspersed with villages and cultivated valleys. The roads, however, if they deserve the name, are wretched beyond description, and in many places scarcely to be traced.

Boscovich, in describing the passage of this mountain, says, “The Balkan, where we crossed it, is composed of several chains of mountains, higher than Rhodope. The roads are frightful; and particularly in the descents, where they are obstructed by large stones, and broken into deep holes; nor is it possible to procure any certain information of them excepting when near the habitations of the peasants.” In the most dangerous passes of the mountain, guards are stationed, provided with drums, which they beat to announce to the traveller the security of the road. Carriages, in crossing, are assisted occasionally by oxen or buffaloes, which are taken from the peasants, who also attend on each side to prevent them from overturning in the ravines and dangerous passages, for which they are satisfied with a trifling gratuity.

\* The Balkan Mountain is sometimes considered as a part only of the Hæmus.

† In the latitude of 42° 34' according to the ingenious Mr. Arrowsmith, who has corrected the latitude of the whole coast in his lately published map of Turkey in Europe.



*Published by J. G. Colburn, 14, London, 1836.*

# MOUNT BALKAN.









*Pub. by M. P. Choudhury, Calcutta, 1871.*

KASKEERAT.





# K A S K E R A T,

## IN ROMANIA.

THE town of Kaskerat is pleasantly situate a little to the west of Borgas, in the province of Romania, about thirty-five leagues from Constantinople to the north-west, and on the high road from that city to Adrianople. It contains two mosques, with their minarets, and a Greek church, remarkable for its tower and clock. The latter is so uncommon an object, notwithstanding its utility, that Sir Paul Lucas, speaking of Philipopolis, says it was the only town in which he saw a steeple with a clock to strike the hours. The inhabitants are chiefly Turks and Greeks. The houses are awkwardly constructed, (and in general of wood) as well those of the rich as poor: they contain many windows, but so badly finished, as well as the doors, as to admit when shut the wind into every apartment. The roofs are covered with curved tiles, so disposed as to resemble those seen in many places in the south of France. The houses inhabited by Turks are frequently distinguished from those of the Greeks, Armenians, and Jews, by the colour they are painted; the former are mostly red and white, and the latter of a dark brown. The apartments of the men in the Turkish dwellings are always separated from those of the women; the former are called *Selamlık*, the latter *Harem*, or sacred place. These in general have no windows toward the street; if there be any they are lofty, and grated in such a manner that no one from without can see into them.

The houses of the better sort consist of two piles of building, communicating with each other by an intermediate apartment, of which the husband alone has the key.

At Borgas the road from Constantinople divides; that on the right hand leading through Kaskerat and Adrianople, toward Dalmatia and the southern part of Germany, and that to the left through Bulgaria, and over Mount Hæmus, to Walachia and Moldavia.

## B O R G A S,

### IN ROMANIA.

BORGAS, formerly Arcadiopolis, is an inconsiderable town, situate between Kirkclisia and Caristran, about ninety miles to the north-west of Constantinople. Its present name is a corruption of Pyrgos, an appellation, if we may credit Boscovich, given to more than 300 towns and villages in Turkey, being applicable to every place in which there is a tolerably strong castle. The town consists of about four hundred Turkish houses, sixty Greek, and a few belonging to the Jews. It contains five mosques, one of which was built by Mohammed Bashaw, grand vizier to Solymán the Magnificent, to whom the town is also indebted for a *ruplizia*, or public bath, a *madrick*, or public school, and a *caravansary*. The latter is an extensive square building covered with lead, and supported by pilasters of wood about three yards distant from each other.—The principal street is represented in the view :—it contains a double range of shops, detached, as is customary in many parts of Turkey, from the dwelling-houses. These are secured at night by letting down the top shutters, and raising the lower ones, which serve as tables or counters before the windows, when the shops are open, being supported by props in an oblique direction.

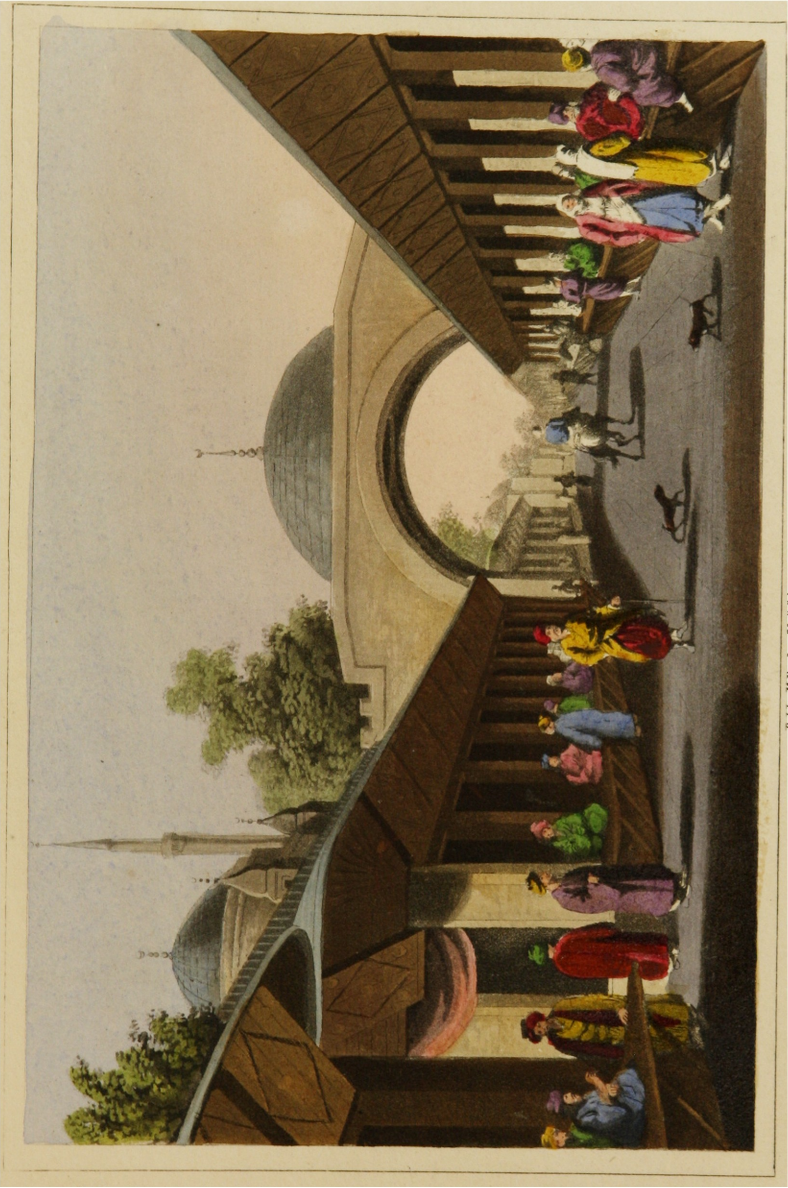
At this place great quantities of earthen-ware utensils of various sorts are manufactured, many of which are gilt and highly ornamented. It is also celebrated for curious tobacco-pipes.

Between Borgas and Caristran is an artificial mount in the form of a cone of considerable bulk, called Murat Tepessi, that is, the mountain of Amurath, said to have been raised by order of Amurath the second, when he went to give battle to the prince of Servia. Many similar monuments, though not of equal magnitude, are found in this neighbourhood, denoting the spots where Turkish armies have at different times encamped.







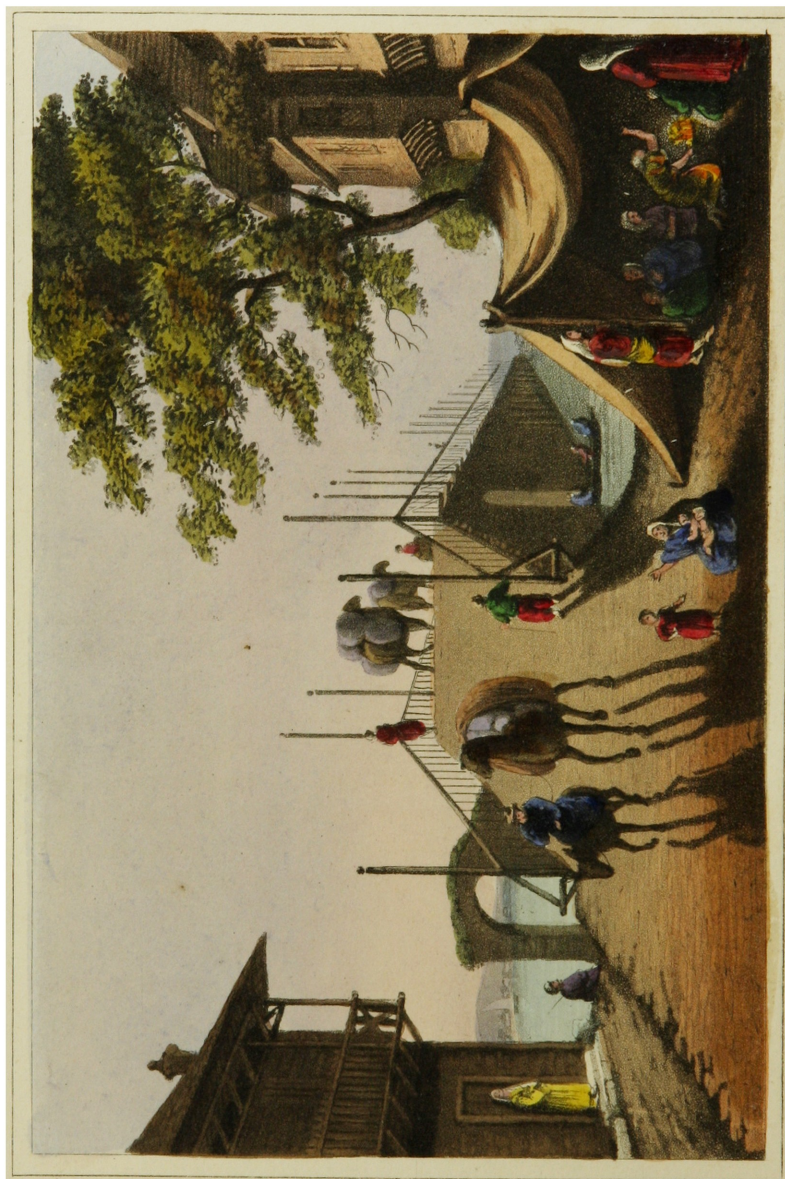


*Pub. by H. V. Brown, 22, Great Street, S. E. London, 1856.*

**BORGAS.**







*Printed by M. G. B. in Mantua, 1858.*

**PONTE PICCOLO.**

## PONTE PICCOLO,

### IN ROMANIA.

PONTE Piccolo, or the little bridge, is an inconsiderable town, pleasantly situate at the head of a salt lake on the borders of the Archipelago, about five leagues to the west of Constantinople.

It receives its name from a stone bridge of thirty-six arches, constructed by Solyman II. in the year of the Hegira 974. The lake is of unequal breadth, and about fifteen miles in length, communicating with the sea by a narrow channel over which the bridge is erected. The town contains a mosque, and five hans or caravansaries, some of them tolerably handsome. This place was known to the ancients by the appellation of Bathinia, or Bathinis, according to Pomponius Mela, and the younger Pliny.

At this town the regulations of the Michmander begin :—this is a Turkish officer appointed by the Porte to accompany foreign ministers while travelling in the dominions of the Grand Signor, with orders to pay them every attention, and to provide whatever may be necessary for their accommodation in the different towns they pass through.

Boscovich, who came through Ponte Piccolo in the suite of the English ambassador in the year 1762, says,—“ We had here for lodging, or konax, as the Turks call it, two miserable Greek houses, in which were several images of saints, as ill made and as hideous as it is possible to conceive : these are almost always found in the habitations of the Greeks, and are frequently intermixed with wretched paintings, before which even in the poorest houses a dirty lamp is kept continually burning.

The group of figures under the tent, in the view annexed, represents a band of gipsies, found in that situation by the artist, exercising the farrier's art.

# TCHIURLUK,

## IN ROMANIA.

THE town of Tchiurluk, or Chourlu, stands on a rising ground between Borgas and Siluria, twenty-four leagues from Constantinople to the north-west, about seven from the coast of the Euxine, and near the same distance from the sea of Marmora.—From its elevated situation, it commands very extensive prospects, which are bounded to the south-east by the last-mentioned sea.—It contains a conac, or little seraglio, built for the use of the Grand Signor when he travels this road;—this was visited by Lady Wortley Montague, who describes it in the following words: “I had the curiosity to view all the apartments destined for the ladies:—they were in the midst of a thick grove of trees made fresh by fountains; but I was most surprised to see the walls almost covered with little distichs of Turkish verse written with pencils.”

This place is supposed by Pocock to be the Izhrallon of the Itinerary, which is mentioned as eighteen miles from Heraclea, in the way to Adrianople.—The Greeks and Armenians have a church here; and from an inscription in the church-yard of the latter, which makes mention of a Perinthian, the above author supposes the place was in the district of Perinthus, called afterwards Heraclea. Near the town are seen the remains of an ancient enclosure built with brick and stone, supposed to be part of the wall constructed by Anastasius Dicolus in the sixth century, to prevent the incursions of the Bulgarians.—This spot is also famous on account of a battle between Bajazet and his son Selim.

The adjacent country is thus described by a modern traveller: “The first signs of cultivation we met with were the vineyards belonging to Chourlu, which are three miles in extent. Before reaching these, we crossed a very dreary country, in which not a tree or a stone was to be seen. The soil was very white, but neither sand nor clay; and what little vegetation there was, was nearly destroyed by innumerable quantities of ground squirrels. On this side the town we pursued our journey over a country equally open and barren.”









*Public Museum, 22, Giltspur Street, London, E.C. 4.*

# TOCHIURUK.







*Publ. by M. Parker, 22 Golden Square, London, 1850.*

MOSQUE IN LATACHIA.





## MOSQUE AT LATACHIA,

### IN SYRIA.

THE town of Latachia is pleasantly situate on the coast of Syria, between Tortosa and Antioch; distant from the former twelve leagues to the north, and from the latter fifteen to the south-west. It was formerly called Laodicea, and was founded by Seleucus Nicator, the first king of Syria, who named it after his mother Laodice. It stands in a fruitful plain, on the southern side of a peninsula, which projects near half a league into the sea. The walls are about a mile and a half in circumference: they enclose many spacious gardens, with a monastery belonging to the Latin convent of the Holy Land, and four Greek churches; to one of which there is a cemetery, where the English as well as those of the Church of Rome are interred. The houses are chiefly built of the fragments of the ancient city, many of which are still to be found in different places about this neighbourhood. The town is at present within the jurisdiction of Tripoli, and contains between four and five thousand inhabitants. One of the principal remains of antiquity here is part of a portico of the Corinthian order, consisting of four columns, with an entablature richly decorated. The interior of the mosque affords nothing worthy of notice: the religion of Mohammed having proscribed every sort of imagery, these edifices throughout the Turkish empire contain neither painting nor sculpture; their interior ornaments consisting chiefly of inscriptions in large Arabic characters, with lamps or branchès, and frequently ostrich eggs, or large ivory balls hung on rings.

# TERAPIA,

## IN ROMANIA.

TERAPIA is an inconsiderable town, situate on the borders of the canal of Constantinople, about three leagues from that capital, and near the ancient Pharmacius Sinus, now called the Gulf of Terapia. The drawing represents the house of the archbishop, before which the ladies, and other principal inhabitants of the town, are assembled to celebrate the vigil of St. John the Baptist; when it is customary for the Greeks, as well as the Latins in different parts of Europe, to kindle large fires, which are kept burning the greater part of the night. At this time many absurdities are practised by the lower classes of people, which, being intermixed with their devotions, are considered as meritorious. Among others is that of jumping over the fire, and afterward plunging into the canal, and swimming about, as represented in the view. At these grand festivals (says a French author) it frequently happens, that such disorders take place as would shock any person that has the least ideas of true religion; the service being interrupted by buffooneries, laughter, and ridiculous acclamations; and the priests and singers drinking wine freely upon these occasions, in order to solemnize the festival with greater spirit. It should, however, be recollected, that the Latin and Greek churches hold each other in abhorrence, and consequently are inclined to exaggerate in their descriptions of the ceremonies of the opposite party.

The Greeks observe three vigils yearly, viz. that of the Epiphany, of St. John the Baptist, and of the Exaltation of the Cross.

---

### ERRATA.

IN the description to the Plate, entitled, "The Road over the Balkan Mountain," in the 17th line, instead of *a plate in Part I.*, read, *a plate called Mount Balkan.*









*Printed by W. Phillips, 22, St. John's St., London, W.C.2.*

T E R A P I A .



---

PRINTED BY BENSLEY AND SON,  
BOLT COURT, FLEET STREET.

---















